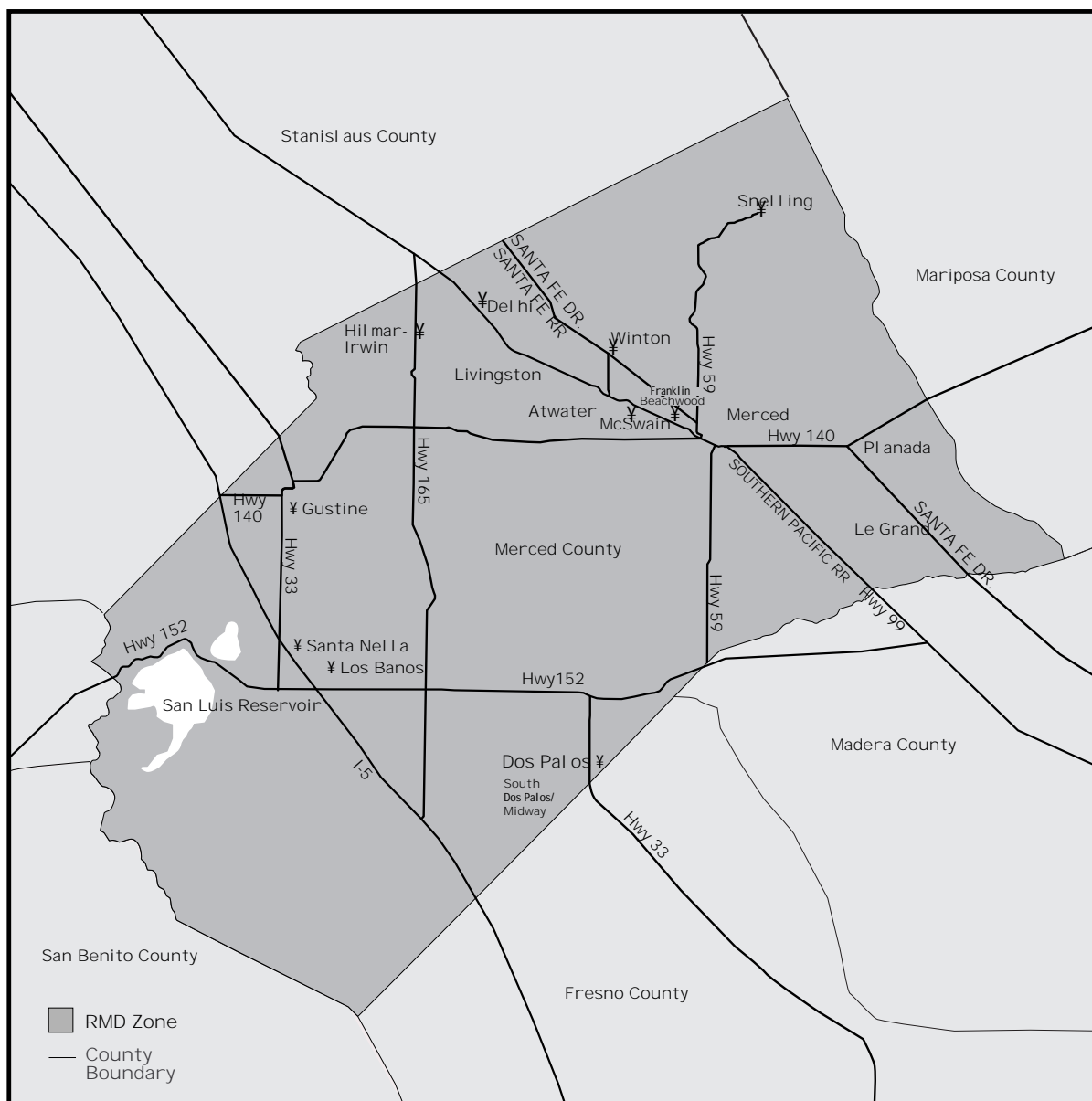




State of California • Environmental Protection Agency
Integrated Waste Management Board

MERCED COUNTY REGIONAL RECYCLING MARKET DEVELOPMENT ZONE



ZONE INFORMATION

The Merced County Regional Recycling Market Development Zone (RMDZ) is located in the northern portion of the San Joaquin Valley between the population centers of Sacramento, San Francisco/Santa Clara, and Fresno. The zone includes the cities of Atwater, Dos Palos, Gustine, Livingston, Los Banos, Merced and all Merced County unincorporated areas.

PROGRAM INFORMATION

California Recycling Market Development Zones are designated by the Integrated Waste Management Board. The Board offers low-interest loans up to \$1 million, technical assistance on financing strategies, and assistance in marketing zones nationally and internationally. For more information on this program and other market development programs, contact the Board's Recycling Business Assistance Branch at (916) 255-1000.

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TARGET MATERIALS

The strategic location of Merced County results in an abundant supply of materials available for secondary processing and manufacturing. These materials include plastics, glass, yard waste, compostable organics, inert materials, and waste tires.

INFRASTRUCTURE

The area is served by two rail lines (Santa Fe and Southern Pacific) and three major highways (Interstate 5 and State Highways 99 and 152). These transportation routes provide an excellent network for easy shipment of materials in and out of the zone. Many developed industrial parks have land available, and recently closed Castle AFB can accommodate heavy aircraft.

INCENTIVES

Each incorporated city offers a variety of technical and financial incentives to attract business development to their respective jurisdictions. These incentives may include:

- Enterprise Zone tax incentives to eligible businesses.
- Waiver or reduction of public facilities fees
- Financing and loan guarantees.
- Reduced utility and business license fees.
- Redevelopment Agency assistance tailored to meet individual circumstances.
- Assistance with permitting, site selection, and business plan evaluation.

ADDITIONAL ADVANTAGES

Merced County offers prospective employers the land and labor costs of the Midwest in the center of California. The closure of Castle AFB has created a large labor pool and a need for generating moderate-income jobs.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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